

The Generous and Noble Speech of William Wallace of Elchintoun at the Battle of Falkirk.

AT the Battle of Falkirk, Robert Bruce (afterwards K. Robert 1st.) Son to Robert Bruce Lord of Mannie &c. being then under English Influence, Created E. of Huntingtoun, and Captain of the English Forces at the Battle of Falkirk, took occasion to upbraid William Wallace the Scottish Chittain; alledging, that he affected the Sovereignty. To which William Wallace made the following Reply. "I never proposed to my self, that, as the end of my Travel and Labour, which neither my Circumstances or my Fortune can admitt; nor doth my mind desire: But when I see my Fellow Subjects Destitute of Leaders by your Cowardice, and Disposed to a most cruel Enemy, not for Slavery, but for Butcherie and Destruction; I took pity upon their case, and have undertaken their Cause, forsaken by you; and I will as soon leave my Life, as forsake their Liberties, Fortunes and Safety. You, to whom nasty Slavery with Security, is preferable to honest Liberty with hazard, Embrace that Fortune, which you so greatly Esteem: I shall freely and willingly Die, tho I had a Thousand Lives, in the Defence of my Country. Nor shall the Love to my Country leave me, before my Life forsake me. Buchanan, an Edit. Mosm. p. 200.

When the Englishes had invaded Fife by Sea; they pillaged and destroyed, sparing neither Age, Sex nor Quality. The Earl of Fife having sent 500 Horsemen to Suppress those Pillagers and Plunderers, they were afraid to Grapple or Encounter with such a Multitude; But William Sinclair Bishop of Dunkeld, meeting them upon their Return, having understood the cause thereof, and Reproved them for their Cowardice; he being accompanied with about 60 Horsemen, cries out, *Who would save Scotland, let them follow me!* and immediatly having taken a Spear in his hand, and the rest chearfully following him, he made so brave an Assault upon these Vagabond Pillagers, that he chased them all to their Ships in such haste and Confusion, that several Boats perished with the too great Burden of Englishes that were in them. In that Assault fell upwards of 500 of the Englishes. *ibid.* 211.

Two Fables. Translated out of Æsop. c

THe City-Mouse, that many days had spent Doth much the trembling Country-Mouse aff-
Within her Native Soil, on travel bent, But he not staying long, the City-dame (fright-
The Country's sweet Varities to spy, Returneth to the Banquet whence she came,
Is by a Country Mouse met happily; And calls her Guest, off'ring a choicer bit
Who entertains her with the choicest fare To her, than any she had tasted yet:
Her Larder did afford: Nor did she spare But fear had spoild her Stomach: So that she
For any cost which the delightful field, (Glad to depart) replyeth, if this be
To welcome unexpected Guests, could yeild. The Sauce you have unto your City fair,
Yet this pleas'd not the City-Mouse; the Meat Give me my own; tho' Course, 'tis void of care.
Seemed too coarse for her nice chaps to eat: Such fears perplex not us, nor griefs molest
And therefore she entreats the Country-Mouse, Our homely Roofs; we undisturbed rest,
To walk with her and view her City-house, Tho' course our fare: When danger more than
To see what entertainment she could give, Attend the dainty junkets which you eat. (Great
And how deliciously she still did live.
So both agree, and to the City come:

Which entred, they approach a spacious Room,
And after welcome giv'n, a dainty Feast
The City-Mouse provided for her Guest.
Both seat themselves and heartily do feed,
But, 'midst their junkets, with unwelcom speed,
They hear the turning of a Key, whose fear
Enjoins them quickly to forsake their chear,
And shift into a hole, from whence they see
One of the Household Servants hastily
Enter the Room (the which unusual sight
Of the Horse and the Stag.
THe Stag & Horse a single Combat fight;
The Horse repuls'd is driv'n to open flight.
Wherefore, that he his Honour may regain,
He humbly supplicats the help of Man,
Who, mounted on his back with spear and shield,
Soon makes the Hart forsake the pleasant field,
And fly amain. So he that was before,
Vanquish'd, is now become a Conqueror.
Yet not quite free; but as a Subject still
To Man! Man rides and rules him at his will.